TITUS

TO A YOUNG PASTOR

THE BACKGROUND OF TITUS

- Titus, Paul's "true son in common faith" (**Tit 1:4**).
- There is no mention of Titus by name in the book of Acts, but we can glean much about him from the epistles of Paul.
- He was a Gentile by birth (**Ga 2:3**), and accompanied Paul to Jerusalem during the controversy over circumcision (**Ac 15:1-2**; **Ga 2:1-5**).
- During Paul's third missionary journey, Titus became his personal emissary to the church at Corinth, seeking to learn how they received his first letter.
- When Titus did not return to Troas as expected, Paul anxiously went on to Macedonia (**2 Co 2:12-13**).
- It was there that Paul and Titus finally connected, much to the relief and comfort of Paul when Titus reported how well he was received by the Corinthians (**2 Co 7:5-7**,**13-15**).
- Paul then sent Titus and two others back to Corinth, bearing the letter we call Second Corinthians, and exhorting the brethren to complete their collection for the needy saints in Jerusalem (**2 Co 8:16-9:5**).
- At the time of the epistle to Titus, he had been left on the island of Crete by Paul to **"set in order the things that are lacking, and appoint elders in every city"** (**Tit 1:5**).
- We last read of Titus that he had gone to Dalmatia (in modern day Yugoslavia) during the final days of Paul's life (**2 Ti 4:10**).
- **CHAPTERS**: 3 | **VERSES**: 46

TITUS

- Like his first epistle to Timothy, this letter is written to a young preacher assigned a difficult task.
- Evidently the churches on the island of Crete were in need of maturation, and this letter is designed to assist Titus in that work.
- This must have been a daunting task, because even the Cretans' own classical writings described them as "liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons," to which Paul added, "This testimony is true" (1:12-13).

Therefore, Paul wrote to encourage Titus:

- To see that qualified elders were appointed in every city (Tit 1:5-9)
- To preach things befitting "sound doctrine" (Tit 2:1)
- To exhort the brethren to be "zealous for good works" (Tit 2:14; 3:1,8,14)

THEME OF THE EPISTLE:

The key phrase in this epistle is "good works" (Tit 1:16; 2:7,14; 3:1,8,14).

KEY VERSE:

Titus 3:8 - *"This is a faithful saying, and these things I want you to affirm constantly, that those who have believed in God should be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable for men."*

OVERVIEW OF TITUS

INTRODUCTION (Tit 1:1-4)

INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING CHURCH ORGANIZATION (Tit 1:5-16)

- QUALIFICATIONS OF ELDERS (Tit 1:5-9)
- CHARACTERISTICS OF FALSE TEACHERS (Tit 1:10-16)

INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING CHRISTIAN CONDUCT (Tit 2:1-3:11)

- FOR THE OLDER MEN AND WOMEN (Tit 2:1-3)
- FOR THE YOUNGER WOMEN AND MEN (Tit 2:4-8)
- FOR THE SERVANTS (Tit 2:9-14)
- FOR THE BRETHREN IN GENERAL (Tit 3:1-11)

CONCLUSION (Tit 3:12-15)